1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Himachal Pradesh	4,197	4,610	4,610	4,838	5,421
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2,516	2,516	2,516	3,429	3,429
9.	Jharkhand	2,033	2,951	2,951	5,892	5,892
10	Karnataka	48,265	44,617	44,617	44,617	44,617
11	Kerala	33,894	34,470	35,841	36,437	36,437
12	Madhya Pradesh	51,323	56,477	56,477	69,208	69,208
T						
13	Maharashtra &	75,152	79,121	79,121	84,159	84,159
14	Orissa	33,341	34,953	34,953	37,993	37,993
15	Punjab & Haryana	38,652	40,474	40,474	46,676	46,676
16	Rajasthan	34,485	37,299	37,299	40,823	40,823
17	Tamil Nadu	41,670	41,670	41,670	52,477	52,477
18	Uttar Pradesh	2,01,780	2,01,780	2,01,780	2,01,780	2,01,780
19	West Bengal	52,261	52,261	52,261	52,261	52,261
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	TOTAL:	8,47,015	8,80,672	8,82,043	9,53,528	9,54,589

Law Commission's review of rape laws

4068. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission, in its report, has recommended a comprehensive review of the law relating to rape and sexual abuse of children;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations in this regard;

(c) what is the view of Government on these recommendations and by when these would be accepted;

(d) how many recommendations are pending for consideration or have not been accepted; and

(e) the details thereof and the recommendations which have been accepted, so far?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARD WAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Law Commission, in its 172nd Report of on "Review of Rape Laws", has made recommendations to amend various provisions relating to sexual assault including unlawful contact with a young person. It has recommended ehanges for widening scope of the offence in section 375 IPC (Rape) and to make it gender neutral.

(c) to (e) The Report was referred to the State Governments for seeking their views. The National Commission for Women has also recommended for changes in the Rape Laws in its Annual Report 2004-05. Since the Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure are in the Concurrent

List of the Constitution of India, this requires consultation with State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The recommendations are being considered in consultation with the State Governments and Union Territories Administrations. No time frame has been fixed in this regard.

Appointment of Judges

4069. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Pesonnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, in its recent report, has recommended for complete review of the procedure for appointment of judges in various courts;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the views of Government on these recommendations; and

(c) whether Government intends to review the procedure and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) In their report submitted after examining the Judges (Inquiry) Bill, 2006 introduced in the Lok Sabha on 19.12.2006, the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee has favoured for the restoration of the pre-1993 position for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts. They have also suggested mat the appointments could be entrusted to a wider body with representation both from the judiciary and the executive.

(c) Government have noted the recommendation of the Standing Committee. However, in view of the judgement of the Supreme Court in Supreme Court Ad vocates-on-Record and anr *vs.* Union of India and anr, it is not possible to bring change in the present system of appointment.

Declaration of assets and liabilities by Judges

4070. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had adopted a self regulatory code for Judges, to declare their assets and liabilities annually, which is not being followed; and

(b) if so, whether Government would ask the Supreme Court to implement the code scrupulously or would enact a legislation on the subject, on the pattern of rules on the subject made by Parliament for Members of Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) A resolution passed unanimously on the 7th May, 1997, at a meeting chaired by then Chief Justice of India and attended by twenty-two Supreme Court judges, had reportedly said, "every judge should make declaration of all assets in the form of real estate or investments held in their names, in the name of their spouses or any other person dependent on them, to the Chief Justice".

(b) In view of the independence of judiciary, it is not possible for the Government to ask the judiciary to implement their own resolution. The Government has, however, introduced the Judges (Inquiry) Bill**,** 2006 in the Lok Sabha on 19.12.2006 which, *inter-alia,* provides